

UMGSA Council Meeting Minutes **Wednesday, January 22nd, 2020 - 5:30 PM - UMGSA Lounge**

1. Call to Order(5:33pm).

2. Traditional Territories Acknowledgement

The University of Manitoba campuses are located on original lands of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Métis Nation. We respect the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

3. Approval of the Agenda

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the agenda for the January 22nd, 2020 UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

Natural Resources/Nursing (Carried).

4. Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the November 27th, 2019 UMGSA Council Meeting are included as Appendix I to this Council meeting agenda.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the minutes of the November 27th, 2019 UMGSA Council Meeting as presented.

Nursing/Biological Sciences (Carried).

5. Committee Reports

5.1. November & December Committee Reports (Appendix II)

6. HSGSA Report

6.1. November & December HSGSA Report (Appendix III)

7. Senate Reports

7.1. November Senate Report (Appendix IV)

7.2. December Senate Report (Appendix V)

8. Executive Reports

8.1. November Executive Reports (Appendix VI)

8.2. December Executive Reports (Appendix VII)

9. Departmental Reports

Management MBA: is thanking all graduate students for the success of the departments' event.

Environment and Geography: is hosting an interactive workshop in conjunction with the

Counselling Centre on the 4th of February, 2020 about how to deal with difficult social situations such as bullying and harrasment, which are commonly found in a graduate student setting.

Peace & Conflict Studies: is hosting a public lecture on the 4th of February, 2020 at 7pm. It will focus on refugees.

10. Unfinished Business

None.

11. New Business

11.1. In Memoriam: On January 8th, Ukrainian International Airlines Flight PS752 was shot down near Tehran, Iran, killing all those on board. Among the victims were members of the University of Manitoba community, including two students and several alumni. The UMGSA sends its deep condolences to the families, friends and colleagues of those lost in the crash. The speech given by UMGSA Senator Ehsan Tahmasebian at the memorial event honouring the victims, held on campus on January 10th, is included as Appendix VIII.

11.2. Ratification of the Election and Referendum Committee Chairperson: All non-Executive committee chairpersons must be recommended by the committee's members, and ratified by Council. The Election and Referendum Committee has voted to select Chenée Merchant as the Committee's Chairperson.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council ratifies Chenée Merchant as the Election and Referendum Committee Chairperson for the 2020 UMGSA General Election.
Election and Referendum Committee (Carried).

11.3. Formation of the UMGSA Selection Ad-Hoc Committee to Choose a New Governance and Communications Coordinator: The UMGSA Selection Ad-Hoc Committee is formed as needed for the hiring of employees. Our previous Coordinator, Jayne Hammond, went on maternity leave last year, and a temporary replacement, Colin Ijebor, was hired for a term ending March 6th, 2020. Jayne has now informed the UMGSA that she will not be returning to her position, so a new Coordinator must be hired. The full list of Committee members is as follows:

- Carl Neumann - UMGSA President (Chairperson)
- Cody Ross - UMGSA VP Finance and Administration
- Mahder Teffera - HSGSA President
- Michael Bagamery – Natural Resources
- Shakti Vyjayanthi – Management MBA
- Scott White - Statistics

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council forms the UMGSA Selection Ad-Hoc Committee to choose a new Governance and Communications Coordinator with the six members listed above.

Political Studies & Public Administration/ Lingusitics (Carried).

11.4. Commitment to Pursue an Ethical Investment Portfolio: Multiple actions taken by the UMGSA indicate a desire for a serious response to climate change as well as interest in pursuing more sustainable operating practices. The UMGSA supported and participated

in the climate strike, declared a climate emergency, has governing documents that demand ethical purchasing, and is developing position statements that support sustainability initiatives. The next step is to bring a Motion to Council to commit to pursuing an ethical investment strategy. This implies that we will make this switch, but the exact transition timing and investment portfolio will be decided-upon by Council following presentations from different investment banks.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves a commitment to pursuing an ethical investment portfolio. The transition schedule, portfolio managers and portfolio composition will be voted-upon by Council following presentations made to the UMGSA Executive and/or UMGSA Finance Committees.

Finance Committee (Carried).

11.5. Approval of the UMGSA's Audited Financial Statements for the 2018-2019

Financial Year: In accordance with the UMGSA's policies and with University regulations, the Association's Financial Statements are audited annually by an external accounting body. BDO Canada, LLP conducted the audit for the 2018-19 UMGSA financial year. The auditors attest that these statements fairly present the financial position of the UMGSA. The Management Letter from BDO is included as Appendix IX to this Council meeting agenda. The Audited Financial Statements are included as Appendix X.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the UMGSA's Audited Financial Statements for the 2018-2019 UMGSA financial year.

Executive Committee (Carried).

11.6. Approval of the Auditors for the UMGSA's Financial Statements for the 2019-

2020 UMGSA Financial Year: BDO Canada, LLP has been our auditor for many years, and they know us as an organization quite well. That knowledge aids them in their work, and produces more precise audit results for the UMGSA. Their fees are comparable to other similarly-qualified auditors.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the selection of BDO Canada, LLP as the auditors for the UMGSA's financial statements for the 2019-2020 UMGSA financial year.

Executive Committee (Carried).

11.7. Approval of U-PASS Referendum Question : The U-PASS (Universal Bus Pass) is a program offered by the City of Winnipeg in which all full-time students within the transit service area pay a subsidized bus pass fee and have unlimited access to transit through the months to which the program applies. It has been in existence since 2016 and the first contract expires at the end of this academic term. The City of Winnipeg is in the process of approving an increase in the fees for the U-PASS program. Because this increase is higher than the rate of inflation, UMSU is required to have a referendum to approve these increased fees. It is the practice of the UMGSA to likewise not impose increased fees beyond the rate of inflation in the absence of a positive referendum outcome. UMSU will be holding a referendum in mid-February asking undergraduate students to fill out a ranked ballot, like the one you see proposed below for graduate students. The City has not yet decided whether it will allow for the extension of the U-PASS into the May-August period, but we are

informed that this will most likely move forward as proposed. Failure to approve these increases in fees would lead to the end of the program for UMGSA students. In order to meet timelines for approval of fee changes through the University's processes, we are proposing to hold our referendum on the U-PASS concurrently with our 2020 UMGSA General Election period. This minimizes costs and is logistically preferable within the structures outlined in our Election and Referendum Manual. The UMGSA Council must give its approval for a referendum question to be posed to graduate students, and that approval must come before the beginning of the nomination period at the start of February. The UMGSA Executive recommends to Council the following ranked ballot referendum question to be posed to all graduate students:

The U-PASS (Universal Bus Pass) is a program offered by the City of Winnipeg in which all full-time students within the transit service area pay a subsidized bus pass fee and have unlimited access to transit through the months to which the program applies. It has been in existence since 2016 and the first contract expires at the end of this academic term.

Please fill out the following ballot concerning the U-PASS program, ranking at least two options in order of preference. If no option secures a majority of respondents' support on the first count, the option receiving the least 1st place votes will be dropped from the ballot, and the next-preferred option on each of those ballots will receive those votes.

Q: Which of the following options regarding the U-Pass program would you most like to see implemented?

- Continued enrollment in the U-Pass program at a rate of \$160.75 per term (referring to the fall and winter terms).
- Continued enrollment in the U-Pass program at a rate of \$160.75 in the fall term, and a rate of \$237.90 for the period of January 1st through August 31st.
- No further enrollment in the U-Pass program.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council approves the ranked ballot U-PASS referendum question as ammended, to be posed to students concurrently with the 2020 UMGSA General Election.

Executive Committee (Carried).

11.8. Council Endorsement of the Continuation of the U-PASS: UMSU has passed a motion supporting the continuation of the U-PASS program. The Executive recommends that Council pass a similar motion endorsing the continuation of the U-PASS on the basis of it's very positive impacts on students who use public transportation, as well as on the environment through the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions. We hope that this endorsement will provide some help to our efforts to promote the continuation of this very valuable program.

MOTION: BIRT the UMGSA Council officially endorses the continuation of the U-PASS program.

Executive Committee (Carried).

12. Announcements

12.1. Next Council Meeting: Wednesday, February 26, 2020 - 5:30PM - UMGSA Lounge

13. Adjournment (*6:45pm*).

UMGSA Council Meeting Attendance.

January 22, 2020

<i>Position/Department</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Signature</i>
President	Carl Neumann	Present
VP Finance & Administration	Cody Ross	Present
VP Academic	Tanjit Nagra	Regrets
VP Services & Support	Okechukwu Efobi	Present
HSGSA President	Mahder Teffera	Present
Senator1	Julia Minarik	Present
Senator2	Ehsan Tahmasebian	Present
Chairperson (No Vote)	Kavisha Manoj Mehta	Present
Office Manager (No Vote)	Ruth Prokesch	Present
Gov & Comm Coordinator (No Vote)	Colin Ijebor (Minute Taker)	Present
<i>Agric & Food Science</i>		
Animal Science	Daphne McKnight (Co-Councillors) Bingqi Dong	Daphne Present
Biosystems Engineering	Benitt Sharey Uthiria Raj Md Shadhin (Co-Councillors)	Shadhin Present LE-6:27pm
Entomology	Lavanya Ganesan	Regrets
Food Science	Yi Xie	Absent
Human Nutritional Sciences	Luis Codero-Monroy	Absent
Plant Science	Nathaniel (Nate) Ort (Co-Councillors) Madison McCausland	Madison Present
Soil Science	Lanny Gardiner (Co-Councillors) Jess Nickys	Jess Present LE-6:40pm
<i>Architecture</i>		
Architecture	Emily Jones (Co-Councillors) Jonathan Bailes	Jonathan Present
City Planning	Justin Grift (Co-Councillors) Dom Comps	Both Absent
Interior Design	Ethan Loewen	Absent
Landscape Architecture	Ian Laya	Present LE-6:07pm
<i>Arts</i>		
Economics	Francis Dzikpe (Co-Councillors) Siavash Taheri	Francis Present LE-6:30pm
English, Film, Theatre & Media	Amy-Leigh Gray	Present
French, Spanish & Italian	Semiyu Adegbite	Absent
Linguistics	Iuliia Rezvukhina (Co-Councillors) Tasheney Francis	Tash Present AL-5:45pm
Political Studies & Public Administration	Eric Gagnon (Co-Councillors) Meagan Greentree	Eric Present

Psychology	Nicolas Brais (Co-Councillors) Lauren Kaminski	Lauren Present LE-6:15pm
Sociology & Criminology	Labe Songose	Josh Brandon Present Proxy
Management		
Asper School - Master of Finance	Evelyn Zhang	Absent
Management – MBA	Shakti Vyjayanthi	Present
Education		
Education – PhD	Md. Shayeekh-Us Saleheen	Present LE-6:35pm
Educ - Admin, Fndtions & Psych.	Rebecca Balakrishnan	Absent
Engineering		
Biomedical Engineering	Farahnaz Hajipour (Co-Councillors) Muhammad Masud Rana	Muhammad Present LE-6:10pm
Civil Engineering	Ahmed Gaber Bediwy	Absent
Electrical/Computer Engineering	Nozhan Bayat	Present LE-6:07pm
Environment, Earth & Resources		
Environment & Geography	Lisa Matthes (Co-Councillors) William Dowie	Lisa Present
Geological Sciences	Claire Morrow (Co-Councillors) Max Day	Max Present
Natural Resources Institute	Kaitlyn Duthie-Kamikkatt Michael Bagamery (Co-Councillors)	Michael Present
Graduate Studies		
Applied Health Sciences	Kevin Boreskie (Co-Councillors) Zach Henderson	Zach Present
Peace & Conflict Studies	Darryl Zuend	Mehmet Yavuz Present Proxy
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.		
Kinesiology & Recreation Mgmt.	C. Nolan Turnbull (Co-Councillors) Ganesh Tailor	Both Present
Law		
Nursing		
Nursing	Kim Sefton (Co-Councillors) Stephanie Betker	Kim Present
Science		
Biological Sciences	Alexandra Schoen	Present
Chemistry	Scott Legare	Present

Computer Science	Kimia Shadkami	Present
Microbiology	Abdul-Rahman Adamu Bukari	Present
Physics & Astronomy	O. Jephthah Iyaro	Present LE-6:15pm
Statistics	Scott White	Present
CUPE3909		
CUPE3909 (No Vote)	Garett Williams	Present LE-6:35pm
Indigenous Engagement		
Guests		

Councillors New for 2019-2020
(at least one per department is new)